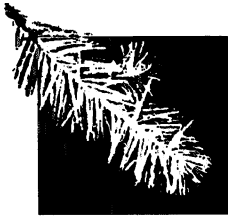


Appendix 3 - Changes to DNR's draft Habitat Conservation Plan



Appendix 3. Changes to DNR's draft Habitat Conservation Plan

3.1 Summary of Major Changes to the HCP in Response to Public Comment

SPOTTED OWL STRATEGY

In planning management activities, DNR will consider any updated information provided by the USFWS on the location of spotted owl site centers in designated NRF areas.

When harvesting spotted owl habitat outside of designated NRF areas, DNR will consider recommendations of the USFWS for scheduling potential take of spotted owl site centers during the first decade of the HCP.

In the Klickitat Planning Unit, a portion of the designated NRF area has been shifted south to the middle portion of DNR's Buck Creek Block.

Some dispersal habitat area shifted from the North Puget Planning Unit to the Columbia Planning Unit and Klickitat Planning Unit.

MARBLED MURRELET INTERIM STRATEGY

Interim

Outside of Southwest Washington (defined as west of Interstate 5 and south of Highways 8 and 12 from Olympia to Aberdeen), surveyed, unoccupied habitat will be released for harvest if it is not within 0.5 mile of an occupied site, and if, after harvest, at least 50 percent of the suitable marbled murrelet habitat on DNR-managed lands in the WAU would remain.

In Southwest Washington (as defined above) surveyed, unoccupied habitat will not be released for harvest unless (a) the long-term plan for the applicable planning unit has been completed, or (b) at least 12 months have passed since the initiation of negotiations of the draft long-term plan without completion of those negotiations.

Once the habitat relationship study is begun within a planning unit, the inventory survey and development of the long-term plan will follow uninterrupted; there will be no time gaps between these steps of the interim strategy.

OTHER LISTED SPECIES

Peregrine Falcon

Surveys will be conducted for aeries at cliffs judged to have potential for use by peregrines.

Trees will be retained along top and base of cliffs judged suitable for aeries.

RIPARIAN STRATEGY

The riparian buffer width will be measured from the outer margin of the 100-year floodplain.

Type 4 and 5 waters classified after January 1, 1992 are assumed to be correctly classified. Type 4 and 5 waters classified prior to January 1, 1992 must either have their classification verified in the field or be assumed to be Type 3 waters.

A more complete and thorough road management strategy has been developed for the HCP. The strategy addresses road design, construction, use, maintenance, and abandonment.

All distances will be measured as horizontal distance, instead of slope distance.

MULTISPECIES STRATEGY

Talus

A distinction has been made between forested and nonforested talus and increased protection has been provided for nonforested talus.

Cliffs

Increased protection of cliffs has been provided, especially for cliffs that are judged suitable for peregrine falcon aeries.

Snags

Additional measures to retain existing large snags and green trees for the recruitment of future snags have been added to the HCP. An average of at least three snags shall be retained for each acre harvested, and, if available, snags retained will be at least 15 inches dbh and 30 ft tall. An average of at least 5 green trees will be retained for each acre harvested.

Balds

A conservation measure was added to protect balds. Road construction through balds shall be avoided, provided that routing of roads around balds can be accomplished in a practicable manner that is consistent with other objectives of a comprehensive landscape-based road network planning process.

Mineral Springs

Conservation measures were added to protect mineral springs. Management activities within 200 ft. of known mineral springs will be designed to retain adequate trees for perching and maintain berry, fruit, and mast producing trees and shrubs.

Seeps

Conservation measures have been added for seeps. Seeps greater than 0.25 acres will be treated as forested wetlands. That is, such features will be protected where part of an unstable hillslope. Research to study the affects on aquatic resources of forest management in around seeps and small wetlands will be included in the research program for Type 5 waters.

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